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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

25908 7590 10/02/2008

NOVOZYMES NORTH AMERICA, INC.
500 FIFTH AVENUE
SUITE 1600
NEW YORK, NY 10110

EXAMINER

MOORE, WILLIAM W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1656

DATE MAILED: 10/02/2008

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/560,414	12/13/2005	Soren Flestved Lassen	10423.204-US	9631

TITLE OF INVENTION: PROTEASES AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING THEM

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/02/2009

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: **Mail Stop ISSUE FEE**
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

25908 7590 10/02/2008
NOVOZYMES NORTH AMERICA, INC.
500 FIFTH AVENUE
SUITE 1600
NEW YORK, NY 10110

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)

(Signature)

(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/560,414	12/13/2005	Soren Flestent Larsen	10423.204-US	9631
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TITLE OF INVENTION: PROTEASES AND METHODS FOR PRODUCING THEM

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nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	01/02/2009
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EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
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MOORE, WILLIAM W	1656	435-220000
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1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.

"Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a Customer Number is required.

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

(1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively,

(2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY AND STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): Individual Corporation or other private group entity Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

A check is enclosed.

Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____

Date _____

Typed or printed name _____

Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS; SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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25908	7590	10/02/2008		EXAMINER
NOVOZYMES NORTH AMERICA, INC.				MOORE, WILLIAM W
500 FIFTH AVENUE				ART UNIT
SUITE 1600				1656
NEW YORK, NY 10110				PAPER NUMBER
				DATE MAILED: 10/02/2008

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 177 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 177 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/560,414	LASSEN, SOREN FLENSTED
	Examiner	Art Unit

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 14 July 2008 and the IDS filed 21 July 2008.

2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 21 and 23-40.

3. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some* c) None of the:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.

5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.

(a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.

(b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).

6. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 20080721
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

/William W. Moore
23 September 2008

/
Nashaat T. Nashed, Ph.D.
Supervisory Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1652

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Amend the specification thus:

Replace the paragraph at page 1, lines 23-30, with the following paragraph:

The term "protease" is defined herein as an enzyme that hydrolyses peptide bonds. It includes any enzyme belonging to the EC 3.4 enzyme group (including each of the thirteen subclasses thereof). The EC number refers to Enzyme Nomenclature 1992 from NC-IUBMB, Academic Press, San Diego, California, including supplements 1-5 published in Eur. J. Biochem. 1997, 250, 1-6; and Eur. J. Biochem. 1999, 264, 610-650; respectively. The nomenclature is regularly supplemented and updated; see e.g. the World Wide Web(WWW) at www.chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/index.html chem.qmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/index.html.

Replace the paragraph on page 5, lines 10-16 with the following paragraph:

Another classification system of proteolytic enzymes is based on sequence information, and is therefore used more often in the art of molecular biology; it is described in Rawlings, N.D. et al., 2002, MEROPS: The protease database. Nucleic Acids Res. 30:343-346. The MEROPS database is freely available electronically at on the World Wide Web at www.merops.ac.uk merops.ac.uk. According to the MEROPS system, the proteolytic enzymes classified as S2A in 'The Handbook of Proteolytic Enzymes', are in MEROPS classified as 'S1E' proteases (Rawlings ND, Barrett AJ. (1993). Evolutionary families of peptidases, Biochem. J. 290:205-218).

Amend the claims thus:

Cancel claim 22.

Amend claims 21, 23-28, and 34 thus:

Claim 21. (Amended) A secreted polypeptide having which has protease activity[.] on soybean meal protein and comprising which polypeptide comprises at least three non-polar or uncharged polar amino acids within the last four amino acids of the C-terminus of the polypeptide[.] and which polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence:
(a) that comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide shown in SEQ ID NO:37; SEQ ID NO:41; or SEQ ID NO:43; or

- (b) that comprises an amino acid sequence which is at least 95% identical to the amino acid sequence of the mature part of the polypeptide encoded by the polynucleotide in SEQ ID NO:1; SEQ ID NO:2; SEQ ID NO:31; SEQ ID NO:36; or SEQ ID NO:40[::] .
- (c) comprises a mature part which is a variant of the mature part of the polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:37; SEQ ID NO:41; or SEQ ID NO:43; comprising a substitution, deletion, extension, and/or insertion of one or more amino acids; or
- (d) is a fragment of (a), (b), (c), or (d)[::]

Claim 23. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 21, 22, wherein the one or more non-polar or uncharged added amino acid(s) is (are) added to the C-terminus of the polypeptide non-polar or uncharged.

Claim 24. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 23, wherein the one or more added non-polar or uncharged amino acid(s) is one or more of Q, S, V, A, or P.

Claim 25. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 23, 22, wherein the one or more added amino acids are selected from the group consisting of[::] SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:5, QP, TL, TT, QL, TP, LP, TI, IQ, QP, PI, LT, TQ, IT, QQ, and PQ.

Claim 26. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 21 which further when expressed and before maturation comprises a heterologous pro-region from a different protease.

Claim 27. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 21 which further when expressed and before maturation comprises a heterologous secretion signal-peptide which is cleaved from the polypeptide when the polypeptide is secreted.

Claim 28. (Amended) The polypeptide of claim 27, wherein the heterologous secretion signal peptide comprises an amino acid sequence having at least 70% a sequence identity of at least 70% with the amino acid sequence encoded by the sequence of polynucleotides 1 - 81 of either SEQ ID NO: 2[::] or SEQ ID NO: 44.

Claim 33 is rejoined.

Claim 34. (Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide[::] the method comprising cultivating a recombinant host cell as defined in claim 31 to produce a supernatant comprising the polypeptide.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Michael W. Krenicky on 23 September 2008.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The amendment to the specification above removes the prefix “www,” from the recitations of the Internet addresses at pages 1 and 5 of the specification. This serves to disable their function as hyperlinks should the US Patent issuing on this application be viewed on-line.

The examiner's amendment to the claims clarifies the recitation of claim 21. The preamble of claim 21 is restated to identify a substrate. The C-terminal structural requirement of the preamble of claim 21, amplified in claims 23-25, is contrary to the teaching of Kolkman, WO 02/055717, made of record with Applicant's IDS filed 13 December 2005 which indicates that the modifications required by the claims allowed herein would reduce the yield of proteases upon recombinant expression, rather than improve the yield as is taught to be the advantage of such modification in the instant application. Claim 22 is deleted, claim 23 is rewritten above to include the structural limitation of claim 22, and claims 23-28 and 34 are amended to depend from claim 21, permitting allowance of claim 21 and 23-40 herewith.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled “Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance.”

Conclusion

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William W. Moore whose telephone number is 571.272.0933 and whose FAX number is 571.273.0933. The examiner can normally be reached Monday through Friday between 9:00AM and 5:30PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's Supervisory Primary Examiner, Dr. Kathleen Kerr Bragdon, can be reached at 571.272.0931. The official FAX number for all communications for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571.273.8300. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 571.272.1600.

/Nashaat T. Nashed/
Nashaat T. Nashed, Ph.D.
Supervisory Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1652

/William W. Moore/
23 September 2008